

Objection To Reissue Declaration

The Examiner has objected to the Reissue Declaration on the basis that it does not specifically identify at least one error which is relied upon to support the reissue application and that it fails to provide a Post Office address for the inventors. Applicant submits herewith an unexecuted reissue declaration believed to correct the defects noted by the Examiner. Applicant is in the process of having the declaration signed by the inventors, some of whom no longer work for Applicant. A fully executed declaration will be forth coming. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider his objection to the Reissue Declaration and withdraw this objection upon receipt of the executed declaration.

Surrender Of Original Patent

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's comment that the original ribbon patent has not been surrendered and state that either the original patent or a statement that the original patent is lost or inaccessible will be forth coming.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 27-41 and 58-85 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shavit *et al.* in combination with Canna, Elizabeth, "A supermarket for transport services." This rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicant contends that the originally filed claims are patentably distinct over the cited references since Shavit and Canna fail to teach or suggest a rate server and a client application registering at a supervisory server for enabling mutual communication therebetween. Therefore, claims 27-41 and 58-85 are not obvious in view of the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw his rejection thereof.

Amendments

Applicant's representative have carefully reviewed the pending claims (claims 1-85) and found numerous informalities and/or superfluous limitations. Accordingly, the claims have been amended to correct these informalities and remove the superfluous limitation. These amendments do not narrow the scope of the claimed invention.


New Claims

Applicant submits new claims 86-99 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that upon receipt of the executed declaration, the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at his earliest convenience. Should the Examiner believe that personal contact would further expedite the prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (248) 641 - 1600.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Gregory A. Stobbs, Reg. No. 28,764
David A. McClaughry, Reg. No. 37,885

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

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**Attachment For Claim Amendments
Showing Marked Up Version Of Amended Claims**

22. (amended) The tool of claim [12] 13 further comprising external processing manager for providing communications services to permit said client application to request and receive data from an external database not supervised by said supervisory server.

27. (amended) A logistics management tool to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:

a rate server, connected to a network, having a set of rules by which [the] a carrier transports [, and having an accessible server interface defining a message handling system for communicating with the rate server];

a client application, connected to the network, having a set of rules by which a shipper ships [, and configured to communicate with the rate server via the server interface];
and

a supervisory server, connected to the network, through which said rate server and said client application register to establish a mutual message communication capability by which said rate server and said client application thereafter pass messages independently of said supervisory server over an interface between them [for communicating messages between the rate server and the client application and thereby] , said interface isolating the set of rules by which [a] the shipper ships from the rules by which the carrier transports.

28. (amended) The tool of claim 27, wherein:

the client application includes [an accessible] a client interface for communicating with the client application; and

the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

29. (amended) The tool of claim [28] 27, wherein the [message handling system comprises] messages comprise:

at least one predefined request message issued by the client application to the rate server; and

at least one predefined response message issued by the rate server to the client application.

30. (amended) The tool of claim [28] 29, wherein:
the predefined request message includes a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped; and
the predefined response message includes a cost for shipping the package.
31. (amended) The tool of claim 27, wherein the set of rules by which the carrier transports comprises a knowledge base of rate structures and [shipping rules and regulations] carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.
32. (amended) The tool of claim 27, wherein the set of rules by which the shipper ships comprises a knowledge base of [the] shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices pertaining to the shipper.
35. (amended) The tool of claim 27, wherein the supervisory server [comprises] engages an interprocess communication mechanism [for passing messages] to facilitate message passage between the rate server and the client application.
36. (amended) The tool of claim 35, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group [comprising] consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.
39. (amended) The tool of claim 35, wherein the client application further comprises a document server for printing [waybills, shipping labels, shipping manifests] of a shipping document.
40. (amended) The tool of claim 35, further comprising a document administration object for [altering] extending communication standards for the [message handling system] interprocess communication mechanism.

43. (amended) The tool of claim 42, wherein:
the client application includes [an accessible] a client interface for communicating with the client application; and
the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

44. (amended) The tool of claim 42, wherein at least one predefined request message including a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped is issued by the client application to the rate server; and
at least one predefined response message including a cost for shipping the package is issued by the rate server to the client application[, the predefined request message includes a weight and delivery date for a package to be shipped; and the predefined response message includes a cost for shipping the package].

45. (amended) The tool of claim 42, wherein the rate server includes a knowledge base of rate structures and [shipping rules and regulations] carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

46. (amended) The tool of claim 42, wherein the client application includes a knowledge base of [the] shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices pertaining to the shipper.

47. (amended) The tool of claim 46, wherein the knowledge base of the shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices includes rules for taking orders for goods from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

50. (amended) The tool of claim 49, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group [comprising] consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

53. (amended) The tool of claim 49, wherein the client application further includes a document server for printing [waybills, shipping labels, shipping manifests] a shipping document.

59. (amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:
providing the rate server with a knowledge base of rate structures and [shipping
rules and regulations] carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

60. (amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:
providing the client application with a knowledge base of the shipper's [rules,
regulations, and] practices pertaining to the shipper.

61. (amended) The method of claim 60, wherein the knowledge base of [the]
shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices includes rules for taking orders for goods from
customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

64. (amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the interprocess communication
mechanism is selected from the group [comprising] consisting of shared memory, semaphores,
named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

67. (amended) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of:
providing the client application with a document server for printing [waybills,
shipping labels, shipping manifests] a shipping document.

71. (amended) A logistics management tool to facilitate the process of shipping
goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:
a rate server, connected to a network, having a set of rules by which [the] a
carrier transports;
a client application, connected to the network, having a set of rules by which a
shipper ships;
a supervisory server, connected to the network, [for communicating messages
between the rate server and the client application] with which said rate server and said client
application register to facilitate communication of messages between said rate server and said
client application independently of said supervisory server; and
an interface associated with at least one of said rate server and said [supervisory
server, said interface defining a message handling system for communicating with the rate

server and thereby isolating a] client application which isolates the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the set of rules by which the carrier transports.

72. (amended) The tool of Claim 71, wherein:
the client application includes [an accessible] a client interface for communicating with the client application; and
the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

73. (amended) The tool of claim [72] 71, wherein the [message handling system comprises] messages comprise:
at least one predefined request message issued by the client application to the rate server; and
at least one predefined response message issued by the rate server to the client application.

74. (amended) The tool of Claim [72] 73, wherein:
the at least one predefined request message includes a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped; and
the at least one predefined response message includes a cost for shipping the package.

75. (amended) The tool of Claim 71, wherein the set of rules by which the carrier transports comprises a knowledge base of rate structures and [shipping rules and regulations] carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

76. (amended) The tool of Claim 71, wherein the set of rules by which the shipper ships comprises a knowledge base of [the] shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices pertaining to the shipper.

77. (amended) The tool of Claim 76, wherein the knowledge base of the shipper's [rules, regulations, and] practices comprises rules for taking orders for good from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

79. (amended) The tool of Claim 71, wherein the supervisory server [comprises] engages an interprocess communication mechanism [for passing messages] to facilitate message passage between the rate server and the client application.

80. (amended) The tool of Claim 79, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group [comprising] consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

83. (amended) The tool of Claim 79, wherein the client application further comprises a document server for printing [waybills, shipping labels, shipping manifests] a shipping document.

84. (amended) The tool of Claim 79, further comprising a document administration object for [altering] engaging communication standards for the [message handling system] interprocess communication mechanism.